



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
AUSTIN TEXAS
INTER-OFFICE

TO: WIC Regional Directors
WIC Local Agency Directors

FROM: Barbara Keir, Director (Original Signed)
Division of Public Health Nutrition and Education
Bureau of Nutrition Services

DATE: May 9, 2003

SUBJECT: Clarification of Breastfeeding Policy No. BF:05.0 and BF:06.0

Recently it has come to our attention that a number of local agencies are using the videotapes provided with the multi-user and single user breast pumps instead of instructing the clients. Procedure III in both Policy BF:05.0, Issuance of Manual and Single-user Electric Breast Pumps, and BF:06.0, Loan of Multi-user Electric Breast Pumps, state, "mothers shall be trained by WIC staff on assembly, use, and cleaning of the breast pump, and expression and storage of human milk." The videos provided with the multi-user and single-user breast pumps do not meet this requirement and they should only be used as a backup to the training provided by the local agency staff.

WIC local agencies do not need to show the videos to the clients. While at the clinic the client should be trained by WIC staff on assembly, use and cleaning of the breast pump, and expression and storage of human milk. The video should be given to clients to take home in case they have any questions. If a client receives a multi-user breast pump, she should return the video when she returns the multi-user breast pump. If a client fails to return the video, local agencies can order additional copies through the WIC warehouse.

If you have questions or require additional information, please contact Amanda Hovis, Nutrition Education Consultant, at (512) 458-7111, extension 3411 or amanda.hovis@tdh.state.tx.us or Mary Van Eck, Manager, Nutrition Education and Breastfeeding, at (512) 458-7111, extension 3484 or mary.vaneck@tdh.state.tx.us.